

Testimony to the Aging Committee March 6, 2012 Support for Raised Senate Bill #281: AN ACT REQUIRING STATE BUILDINGS TO COMPLY WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT BY 2018. By Nora Duncan, Executive Director

The Arc Connecticut is a 60-year old advocacy organization committed to protecting the rights of people with intellectual, cognitive, and developmental disabilities and to promoting opportunities for their full inclusion in the life of their communities.

The Arc Connecticut supports requiring state buildings to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act by 2018. We encourage the committee to additionally consider how state government interacts with individuals with intellectual and development disabilities in situations that are less brick and mortar and more informational and technology based. For instance, many state websites and informational resources could be modified to ensure that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities were more easily able to navigate. This might serve to benefit even the general public who find state regulations and filings confusing and overly complicated.

We are happy to assist the state with technical expertise as possible and thank you for your efforts. Please do not hesitate to call upon The Arc Connecticut for more information or further clarification of our position.

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